

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BRUSSE 03818 01 OF 02 271816Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08
FRB-03 INR-10 NSAE-00 SP-02 STR-07 TRSE-00 LAB-04
SIL-01 OMB-01 USIA-06 NSC-05 SS-15 L-03 H-01
PA-01 PRS-00 /086 W
-----052961 271828Z /53

R 271757Z FEB 78
FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5144
INFO ALL EC CAPITALS
AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
USMISSION USNATO
AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMEMBASSY BERLIN
USMISSION USBERLIN
AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
AMEMBASSY SOFIA
AMEMBASSY WARSAW

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 BRUSSELS 03818

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BELGRADE FOR USDEL CSCE

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: EEC, RO, COMECON, ETRD
SUBJ: HAFERKAMP VISIT TO ROMANIA

REF: BRUSSELS 2073

1. FEBRUARY 24, FROSCHMAIER, CHEF DE CABINET TO EC
COMMISSION VICE PRESIDENT HAFERKAMP (EXTERNAL RELATIONS)
BRIEFED MISSION OFFICER IN CONFIDENCE ON OFFICIAL VISIT TO
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PAGE 02 BRUSSE 03818 01 OF 02 271816Z

ROMANIA WHICH HE AND HAFERKAMP UNDERTOOK FEBRUARY 18-21.
FROSCHMAIER SAID VISIT WAS CONDUCTED IN A CORDIAL, FRANK
ATMOSPHERE WITH ROMANIANS BEING MORE OPEN IN DISCUSSION
THAN EC OFFICIALS HAD EXPECTED.

2. HAFERKAMP HAD NINETY MINUTE TALK WITH ROMANIAN PRIME
MINISTER, AND LENGTHY SESSIONS WITH MINISTERS FOR AGRI-

CULTURE AND TRADE AND TWO DEPUTY FOR MINISTERS.
ROMANIANS SAID CEAUSESCU COULD NOT RECEIVE HAFERKAMP
BECAUSE HE WAS ILL WITH FLU.

3. FROSCHMAIER SAID THAT IN EVERY CONVERSATION THE
ROMANIANS: (A) EMPHASIZED THE IMPORTANCE GOR ATTACHES TO
MAINTAINING LINKS WITH WESTERN EUROPE IN ORDER TO KEEP
FROM BEING DRAWN EVER CLOSER INTO SOVIET ORBIT, AND IN
ORDER TO PLAY A CONSTRUCTIVE ROLE BETWEEN EAST AND WEST;
(B) URGED THE EC TO BEAR THE FOREGOING POLITICAL IMPER-
ATIVES IN MIND AND LOOK BEYOND THE "MERE MERCANTILE"
ASPECTS OF EC-ROMANIAN RELATIONS AS THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY
CONDUCTS ITS VARIOUS SECTORAL NEGOTIATIONS WITH ROMANIA;
AND (C) INDICATED THAT ROMANIA WILL CONTINUE TO EXPAND
ITS RELATIONS WITH THE EC UP TO THE THRESHOLD OF SOVIET
TOLERANCE. IN THIS CONNECTION, ROMANIANS SAID THEY SAW
NO PROBLEM CONCLUDING A NUMBER OF SECTORAL AGREEMENTS WITH
EC, BUT CONSIDERED IT IMPOSSIBLE TO RESPOND POSITIVELY TO
EC'S LONG-STANDING OFFER TO CONCLUDE A BILATERAL FRAMEWORK
TRADE AGREEMENT--AT LEAST UNTIL AFTER EC-CEMA NEGOTIATIONS
HAVE PROCEEDED TOWARD SOME POSITIVE RESULT, WHICH
ROMANIANS IMPLIED THEY DID NOT EXPECT TO HAPPEN ANY TIME
SOON. IN URGING EC NOT TO BE NIGGARDLY WITH ROMANIA IN
TEXTILES, STEEL, FISHERIES AND OTHER SECTORS, ROMANIAN
OFFICIALS UNDERLINED THEIR POINT BY ARGUING THAT COM-
MUNITY'S ATTITUDE TOWARD POLAND AND CZECHOSLOVAKIA ON
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PAGE 03 BRUSSE 03818 01 OF 02 271816Z

TEXTILES AND, PARTICULARLY, STEEL ARE "DRIVING THEM BACK
INTO THE SOVIETS' ARMS."

4. FROSCHMAIER OBSERVED THAT HAFERKAMP AND HE THINK THERE
IS CONSIDERABLE LOGIC IN ROMANIAN ASSERTION THAT AT
PRESENT GOR CAN DO NO MORE THAN NEGOTIATE SECTORAL AGREE-
MENTS WITH EC, AND IN GOR PLEA FOR GENEROUS TREATMENT IN
SECTORAL NEGOTIATIONS. FROSCHMAIER SAID HAFERKAMP IS
RECOMMENDING SUCH TREATMENT TO COMMISSION SERVICES HANDLING
SECTORAL TALKS. FROSCHMAIER RUEFULLY SAID THAT COMMISSION
SERVICES ARE NOT ALWAYS EASY TO NUDGE IN DIRECTION OF
GENEROSITY, BUT NOTED THAT THE COMMUNITY AND ROMANIA HAVE
ALREADY CONCLUDED A TEXTILES AGREEMENT WHICH ROMANIA FINDS
ACCEPTABLE, AND HE THOUGHT THAT IF COMMUNITY OFFER ON
STEEL (YET TO BE MADE) COULD BE "BASED ON ROMANIA'S 1976
EXPORTS TO THE EC PLUS A CERTAIN GROWTH MARGIN SINCE
1976 WAS A BAD YEAR FOR ROMANIAN EXPORTS HERE,"
ROMANIANS WOULD FIND IT ACCEPTABLE.

5. FROSCHMAIER SAID HAFERKAMP DID NOT HIMSELF DISCUSS
EC-CEMA NEGOTIATIONS WHILE IN BUCHAREST, BECAUSE SOVIETS,
REACTING TO AN AGENCE EUROPE (BRUSSELS DAILY ON COMMUNITY

AFFAIRS) REPORT PRIOR TO HAFERKAMP TRIP, HAD STERNLY INFORMED ROMANIANS THEY HAD NOT BEEN AUTHORIZED BY OTHER CEMA MEMBERS TO DISCUSS EC-CEMA NEGOTIATIONS AT THIS TIME. INFORMALLY, ROMANIAN SECOND-LEVEL OFFICIALS DID DISCUSS EC-CEMA TALKS WITH FROSCHMAIER, SAYING THAT SHORTLY THE DANISH EC PRESIDENCY WILL RECEIVE A COMMUNICATION FROM CEMA PROPOSING FURTHER TALKS ABOUT TALKS (77 BRUSSELS 12502) IN MOSCOW IN MAY. AS NOTED PARA 3 ABOVE, ROMANIANS INDICATED THEY THOUGHT THAT IT MIGHT BE SOMETIME BEFORE EC AND CEMA GET DOWN TO SUBSTANTIVE NEGOTIATIONS AND A CONSIDERABLE TIME BEYOND THAT BEFORE NEGOTIATIONS MOVE TOWARD ANY RESULT.

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 BRUSSELS 03818

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6. FROSCHMAIER SAID THAT WHILE ROMANIAN OFFICIALS DID NOT REFER DIRECTLY TO CURRENT BELGRADE CONFERENCE, ONE OF DEPUTY FONMINS SUGGESTED THAT EC COUNTRIES AND

INSTITUTIONS SHOULD BE "PRUDENT" IN THEIR APPROACH TO
HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUES IN THE INTERNATIONAL ARENA SINCE TO
DO OTHERWISE COULD BACKFIRE. HAFERKAMP REPORTEDLY MADE
NO COMMENT. HINTON

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